

The Award sets out findings of fact and conclusions of law in some detail, and it is not necessary to repeat those herein. The Appeals Board adopts those findings and conclusions as its own.

The Appeals Board finds the opinion of Tyrone D. Artz, M.D., to be persuasive. Dr. Artz is adamant that claimant's arthritic condition in her right thumb is not related to her employment with respondent. The fact that claimant's symptoms did not arise until thirteen months after claimant's termination of employment supports Dr. Artz's position.

Additionally, Pedro A. Murati, M.D., while he attempts to create a connection between the injuries to the left and right upper extremities, was asked his opinion in terms of what is "possible". Dr. Murati does not state within a reasonable degree of medical probability that the right upper extremity problems were caused or contributed to by overuse resulting from the injuries to the left upper extremity.

AWARD

WHEREFORE, it is the finding, decision, and order of the Appeals Board that the Award of Administrative Law Judge John D. Clark dated September 18, 2001, should be, and is hereby, affirmed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this ____ day of March 2002.

BOARD MEMBER

BOARD MEMBER

BOARD MEMBER

c: Phillip B. Slape, Attorney for Claimant
Frederick L. Haag, Attorney for Respondent
John D. Clark, Administrative Law Judge
Philip S. Harness, Director